

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Patrick Johannes Blom, et al.

Title: LABEL, CONTAINER COMPRISING SAID LABEL AND  
METHOD OF WASHING SUCH A CONTAINER

Docket No.: 30992US1

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Patent Application  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Please amend the application prior to its examination as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

In the specification, page 1, between lines 1 and 2, please insert the following centered heading and new paragraph:

-- CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATION

This application is a divisional application of Application Serial No. 09/155,031, filed September 17, 1998, which is a Section 371 of PCT/NL97/00139 filed March 19, 1997.--

On page 14 lines 27-37 and page 15 lines 1-10, please delete the paragraph, and insert therefore a new paragraph as follows:

--The label application process will now be described in the order of progression on the basis of this figure. Station 60 shows the step of surface treatment and temperature stabilization by means of a pre-heating treatment using a flame heater or burner 60'. For adhesion of two polymeric materials to occur, many factors must be considered such as cleanliness, pressure, temperature, contact time, surface roughness, movement during bonding and adhesive film thickness. An additional important consideration is the critical surface tension. The commonly accepted method of measuring the critical surface tension is with a Dyne solution, which is well known. For most adhesive applications the critical surface tension of polyethylene is 31 Ergs/cm<sup>2</sup> (Dynes per centimeter). A series of tests were performed which demonstrated for best adhesion of the adhesive previously described to the polyethylene surface, a treatment level of 60 to 70 Ergs/cm<sup>2</sup> (Dynes per centimeter) was